REMARKS

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-22, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37 and 39-42 were pending in this application when examined. Non-elected claims 4-14, 19,-22, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 35 and 40-42 were withdrawn from consideration

Claim 17 has been amended to recite a composition comprising a 2 (1H)-pyridinone compound represented by Formula (XVII), to recite a definition of $R_{\rm I}$, and to make minor editorial changes that are self-explanatory. Support for the definition of $R_{\rm I}$ can be found in claim 7.

Claim 18 has been amended to make minor editorial changes that are self-explanatory.

Claims 34, 37 and 39 have been amended to recite method claims, and to recite method steps.

New claim 43 has been amended to include the features from original claim 17, and to recite a method for suppressing transcription of a type I collagen gene.

Claims 1-3, 15 and 16 are cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

I. Claim Objections

The Examiner objects to claims 1-3, 15-18, 34, 37 and 39 for ending in a semi-colon instead of a period. Claims 1-3, 15 and 16 are cancelled, and claims 17, 18, 34, 37 and 39 are amended to include a period at the end of the claim, overcoming the objection.

The Examiner objects to claims 1-3, 15-18, 34, 37 and 39 for containing non-elected subject matter. Claims 1-3, 15 and 16 are cancelled, rendering their objection moot. Claims 17, 18, 34, 37 and 39 do not recite non-elected subject matter.

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П. Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejects claims 1-3, 15, 16, 34, 37 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Vul'fson. Claims 1-3, 15 and 16 are cancelled, rendering their rejection moot. As to claims 34, 37 and 39, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The reference does not disclose a composition comprising a 2 (1H)-pyridinone compound represented by Formula (XVII), as recited in claim 17, and does not disclose a composition comprising a 2 (1H)-pyridinone compound represented by Formula (XVII), as recited in claim 18. Therefore, the reference does not anticipate claims 17 and 18.

Claims 34, 37 and 39 depend directly from claim 17, and thus also are not anticipated by the reference.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

For these reasons, Applicants take the position that the presently claimed invention is clearly patentable over the applied reference.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the objections and rejection set forth by the Examiner have been overcome, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshitaka TOMIGAHARA et al.
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